# BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

LEAH FIELDS a.k.a. LEAH MEAGAN FIELDS a.k.a. LEAH FIELDS DAIGLE 2859 Truffle Cove Memphis, TN 38128

Registered Nurse License No. 580113

Respondent

Case No. 2012-588

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on August 15, 2012.

IT IS SO ORDERED August 15, 2012.

Raymond Mallel, President

Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Stipulated Surrender of License (Case No. 2012-588)

1 KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California 2 KAREN B. CHAPPELLE Supervising Deputy Attorney General 3 GEOFFREY WARD Deputy Attorney General 4 State Bar No. 246437 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2660 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 5 6 E-mail: Geoffrey. Ward@doj.ca.gov 7 Attorneys for Complainant BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING 9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 2012-588 12 LEAH FIELDS, AKA LEAH MEAGAN FIELDS, AKA LEAH FIELDS DAIGLE 13 2859 Truffle Cove STIPULATED SURRENDER OF Memphis TN, 38128 LICENSE AND ORDER 14 Registered Nurse License No. 580113 15 Respondent. 16 17 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties in this 18 proceeding that the following matters are true: 19 **PARTIES** 20 Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., R.N. (Complainant) is the Interim Executive Officer of the 21 Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is 22 represented in this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by 23 Geoffrey Ward, Deputy Attorney General. 24 Leah Fields Daigle, aka Leah Fields, aka Leah Meagan Fields (Respondent) is 25 representing herself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented 26 by counsel. 27 28

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3. On or about April 20, 2001, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse License No. 580113 to Respondent. The Registered Nurse License expired on June 30, 2006, and has not been renewed.

#### JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 2012-588 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on April 2, 2012. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 2012-588 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

#### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2012-588. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

# **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2012-588, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders her Registered Nurse License No. 580113 for the Board's formal acceptance.
- 9. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation she enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of her Registered Nurse License without further process.

#### CONTINGENCY

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Surrender of License and Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

#### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 580113, issued to Respondent Leah Fields Daigle, aka Leah Fields, aka Leah Meagan Fields, is surrendered and accepted by the Board of Registered Nursing.

1. The surrender of Respondent's Registered Nurse License and the acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent.

06/08/2012

 This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board of Registered Nursing.

- 2. Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a registered nurse in California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- 3. Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board her pocket license and, if one was issued, her wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.
- 4. If she ever applies for licensure or petitions for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a new application for licensure. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for licensure in effect at the time the application or petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 2012-588 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the application or petition.
- 5. If and when Respondent's license is reinstated, she shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$357.50. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board. Nothing in this provision shall be construed to prohibit the Board from reducing the amount of cost recovery upon reinstatement of the license.
- 6. Respondent shall not apply for licensure or petition for reinstatement for two (2) years from the effective date of the Board of Registered Nursing's Decision and Order.

### **ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing.

DATED: <u>6/8/12</u>

LEAH FIELDS DAIGLE, AKA LEAH FIELDS, AKA LEAH MEAGAN FIELDS

Respondent

Stipulated Surrender of License (Case No. 2012-588)

# ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated:

6/18/12

Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California KAREN B. CHAPPELLE Supervising Deputy Attorney General

GEOFFREY WARD Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 2012-588

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KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California KAREN B. CHAPPELLE 2 Supervising Deputy Attorney General 3 GEOFFREY WARD Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 246437 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2660 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 5 6 Attorneys for Complainant BEFORE THE 8 BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS 9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 11 ACCUSATION LEAH MEAGAN FIELDS 12 4559 W. Slauson Avenue #153 13 Los Angeles, CA 90056 14 Registered Nurse License No. 580113 15 Respondent. 16 Complainant alleges: 17 **PARTIES** 18 19 20

- Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., R.N. ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs.
- On or about April 20, 2001, the Board issued Registered Nurse License Number 580113 to Leah Meagan Fields ("Respondent"). The Registered Nurse License was active at all times relevant herein but became delinquent on June 30, 2006 and has not been renewed.

# JURISDICTION AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS

Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an

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inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with Code section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.

- 4. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under Section 2811 subdivision (b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.
- 5. Sections 118 subdivision (b) of the Code also grants the Board jurisdiction over suspended, expired, forfeited, cancelled, or surrendered licenses:

"The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking disciplinary action against the licensee on any such ground."

#### STATUTES

- 6. Section 2761 of the Code provides grounds for disciplinary action:
- "The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:
- (a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- (4) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, restriction, or any other disciplinary action against a health care professional license or certificate by another state or territory of the United States, by any other government agency, or by another California health care professional licensing board. A certified copy of the decision or judgment shall be conclusive evidence of that action."

#### COST RECOVERY

7. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

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(Disciplinary Action by the Tennessee Board of Nursing)

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8. Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Section 2761 subdivision (a)(4) of the Code on the grounds of unprofessional conduct because she was disciplined by the Tennessee Board of Nursing ("Tennessee Board"), as follows:

9. On or about September 14, 2009 the Tennessee Board issued an order approving and adopting an agreed order in the disciplinary action entitled, In the Matter of: Leah Fields. In the agreed order the Tennessee Board ordered Respondent's Tennessee nursing license suspended for taking prescription drugs from her employer and for failing to comply with the state's substance abuse treatment program for nurses. In the agreed order Respondent admitted that on or about July 5, 2007 she removed narcotics without authorization for her own personal use from a health facility in Memphis, Tennessee. She also admitted that on or about January 2008 she was dismissed from the Tennessee Professional Assistance Program, a substance abuse treatment program, for non-compliance. And she admitted that this conduct constituted unprofessional conduct. Respondent agreed to the Tennessee Board's disciplinary order suspending her license pending another evaluation by the substance abuse treatment program and ordering her license placed on probation for three years if she was accepted into that program.

10. Under Section 2761 subdivision (a)(4) of the Code, the Tennessee Board's disciplinary action against Respondent for taking prescription narcotics from her employer and failing to comply with the state's substance abuse treatment program for nurses is ground for the California Board to take disciplinary action.

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PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 580113, issued to Leah
   Meagan Piolds;
- Ordering Leah Meagan Fields to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions
   Code Section 125.3; and,
  - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

ATED: April 2 2012

LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.Ed., R.N. Interim Executive Officer

Board of Registered Nursing
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California

Complainant

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Accusation